

Town Council Unofficial Report
for Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Dune Acres' Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Sherry King's mother passed away recently. The Town Council extends their condolences to Sherry and her family.

Commissioner Reports

Fire -- Mark Bapst reported we received the contract from Town of Porter/Porter Volunteer Firefighters. John Wilhelm, instrumental in developing the contract, recommended its approval. The updated emergency radio that Fire Chief Craig wanted us to get is now in the Security Office.

Roads -- Mark Hull reported that we are surviving another winter with a few comments from some residents. Jon from Jon's Tree Service (JTS) attended the meeting to explain the in and outs of snow removal. Mr. Hull is usually the first person to call JTS for snow removal but the Security Officers are backups. Mr. Hull will touch base with Police Commissioner Cecilia Call to set up more uniform guidelines for the Security Officers for requesting snow removal. A new ice-melting agent is being used this year: Clear Lane/Green Salt. This mixture works better than a sand/salt mixture and will ice to 20 degrees lower than salt. Four - six loads of salt are needed to cover DA's roads. A 1-Ton, 4WD truck is since the bigger trucks don't work too well on the steep hills and narrower roads. 2" - 3" of snowfall takes two drivers about 5 - 6 hours to clear from the roads.

Beach/Ice Rink/Video Security -- Rob Carstens reported the ice skating rink is working well this year, thanks to the cold winter. The liner was mostly successfully patched this year, which means we should get a few more years from the liner.

Video security cameras are being dialed in. The software is being tested. Operation documentation is being written. The only remaining issue is that the license plate image is still a little sketchy but everything else is working well. The Town may need one additional camera.

The preliminary Lake Front Access Enhancement Plan was reviewed. Recall that DA recently received \$15,000 from Federal Government for "enhancing the lakeshore as we see fit." The directive was to enhance lake front access for all DA residents. To that end, Mr. Carstens' two preliminary ideas are:

- Design a walkway that provides easier access to the waterfront for physically impaired folks
- Build a walkway with a deck area than can provide a place to sit and relax

The several challenges that need to be taken into account include the distance from parking lot / seasonal weather changes / portability / stability / utility (handrails, seats, tables) / environmentally friendliness / aesthetically pleasing / fellow resident friendliness. Mr. Carstens was directed to flesh out his ideas a bit further.

The Beach Commissioner is also reviewing how various watercrafts are secured or can be secured on our beaches.

Building -- Lou Mellen reported that Mike Harris is moving ahead with his 4-lot subdivision on Summit Drive. On-going projects continue at 14 Hill Dr, 12 Ridge Dr, 22 Summit Dr, 9 Beach Dr and 31 East Rd.

Maintenance -- Dick Taylor reported that he is "waiting for spring!" He then wants to clean up the underbrush around Town and to develop a demo "restoration" area at Lupine and East Rd. There will be a Spring clean up, as usual this year. Since the lawnmower is on "life support," Mr. Taylor is getting prices on replacement mowers.

Environment -- Cathy Bomberger reported that she's been working on the EPA grant for Great Lake Initiative but may not be able to get it done by the deadline later this month. The

project is to restore our Town parks, emphasizing the removal of invasive species. Mrs. Bomberger also presented a small scale Study Grant for execution. The grant will be used to pay for a contract between Save the Dunes and Dune Acres to develop a plan to restore the Clubhouse Dune. That is, Save the Dunes will develop a plan to restore Clubhouse Dune.

Other Reports

The deer cull is still under way.

The new door for Clubhouse has been installed. A few pieces of trim still need to be stain and installed.

Old Business

The Land Swap/Purchase for 15 Oak Dr is “moving ahead.”

President Swoger has asked Mark Bapst and John Wilhelm to develop a Disaster Plan for the Town in case of a fire or other catastrophe.

Bob Hartmann is taking over as Town Historian for Mary Ann Tittle.

New Business

For 2010, Jane Dickey was re-appointed to be on the Plan Commission; Bob Hartmann on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation (DACIF) President Rick Demkovich reported that for 2009 the DACIF took in \$14,000 in donations and dispersed \$3,800, leaving a total of about \$83,000 in the bank. Mr. Demkovich mentioned that the DACIF is always happy to take any donations at any time!

President Swoger asked Mark Hull to get pricing for a possible snow blower for ice rink. None of us is getting any younger...

*Bob Evans, Editor
January 21, 2010*

Note: This unofficial report covers only pertinent details that may be of interest to DA residents in general. The official Town Council Minutes will be posted on the DA website after the Town Council approves them, at which time this report will be removed.